MRS. CLARICE ESTELLE FREEMAN

Lifelong educator, community activist and
wife of Founding Dean, the late Dr. Thomas F. Freeman

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Greetings,

Our spring/summer edition of Freeman Honors gives an overview of transformative moments for the Honors College. Those moments include: our first Biannual Research Conference; the annual Spring Tribute honoring former President John Rudley and former Provost Sunny Ohia, who created the College in 2009; a Houston City Councilman lectured on the topic, “Beyond Voting;” and the second Academic Signing Day, which reaped our largest freshman class in recent years, of over 50 scholars who will be seated Fall 2022. Also, included in this edition are other significant events and scholarly activities of our junior and senior Freeman Scholars.

Please enjoy!

Dr. Dianne Jemison Pollard

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Dean’s Message

On Saturday, January 29, Freeman Scholars and Honors staff gathered for the first college-wide meeting and event for 2022. The meeting was held in the Walter J. McCoy Auditorium and featured guest speakers Ms. Andreaus Boise (TSU Career & Professional Services Center), Ms. Felicia Jackson (Houston Area Urban League) and Dr. Roger Hart (Honors Faculty Fellow).

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Call to Alumni: Make Contact with the Honors College

We are continually updating our database of Honors alumni at Texas Southern University. The database includes information on those past students who have been in the Honors College, Frederick Douglass Honors Institute, and other honors activities or units that may have preceded them. If you are one of these alumni, please provide the information to the Honors College by contacting Mr. Shandon Neal, at Shandon.Neal@tsu.edu or 713.313.1180 or our front desk at 713.313.6725.
On Wednesday, February 2nd, the Honors College invited Mrs. Clarice Freeman, lifelong educator and wife of Founding Dean, Dr. Thomas Freeman, to share her stories and her wisdom with the TSU campus community as well as the Houston community via Zoom. Mr. and Miss Honors College, Shaun Stevenson (Senior, Biology) and Lauren Bailey (Biology ’22) facilitated the informal interview and members of the Houston community were invited to join the virtual conversation, as it was live-streamed via Zoom.
Freshman Induction Spring 2022

After completing a successful first semester in the Honors College, the Freshmen were officially inducted into the College on Tuesday, February 15. The induction ceremony took place immediately after the Frederick Douglass Lecture by Dr. Jason Oby. Family and friends of the scholars were invited to attend.

Golden Key International Honour Society—TSU Chapter: 2022 Induction

Left to right: Ms. Renuka Nair (honorary member), Ms. Andreaus Boise-Fontenot (honorary member), Mr. Blake Melton (Biology), Ms. Carolina da Graca (Maritime Transportation ’22), Mr. Mark Ddamulira (Civil Engineering/Physics), Mr. Aaron Daniels (Electrical Engineering), Ms. Renata Givens (Human Services & Consumer Sciences), Jamiya Chapman (Political Science), Cierra Branch (Public Affairs), Ms. Randi Wright (Kinesiology), Mr. Shandon Neal (honorary member), Mr. Jalen Jackson (Biology) and honorary member Ms. Sarah Haiying Li (not pictured).

Wednesday, March 2
Frederick Douglass Lecture Series

“The American Negro Spiritual: Soundtrack of our Journey”

DR. JASON OBY
Professor and Chair, Department of Music
TSU

February 15, 2022

The Frederick Douglass Lecture Series is a required attendance event for the Honors College Scholars. Two lectures are presented each semester and each has a community and/or global focus.

“Beyond Voting”

HON. EDWARD J. POLLARD
Houston City Council Member, District J
Attorney, Pollard Legal Group LLC

March 23, 2022

“The Thomas F. Freeman Honors College Formula: Effectiveness Leadership + Supportive Honors Faculty/Staff = Scholar Success!”
The Honors College hosted its first Biannual Invitational Research Conference on Wednesday, March 30. Assistant Dean for Academic Affairs in the Honors College and Conference Chair, Dr. Hector Miranda, sent out a call for papers to program directors of Honors programs at Houston area institutions of higher education.

The agenda included oral and poster presentations by students. The participants hailed from Houston Baptist University Honors College, Houston Community College Honors Program, University of Houston Honors College, and the Thomas F. Freeman Honors College.

Attendees were greeted with welcome remarks from Dean Jemison Pollard, along with special remarks from Senior Associate Vice President for Research & Innovation, Dr. Omonike Olaleye. The keynote address was delivered by Dr. Michelle Penn-Marshall, Vice President for Research and Innovation at the Honors Research Luncheon.
Scenes from the Research Conference

Freeman Scholar and poster presenter
Emmanuel Joshua

Freeman Scholar and poster presenter
Aubri Ford

VP Michelle Penn-Marshall and Dr. Hector Miranda

University of Houston poster presenter Citlali Chavana

Honors College Graduate Research Assistants
Aliah Pinder and Kaelan King

Participants from Houston Baptist University
The fourth annual Honors Spring Tribute and Luncheon was held on Saturday, April 9, 2022, in the President's Lounge of the Sterling Student Life Center. Six key individuals, responsible for the development and growth of the Honors College, were honored: **Dr. Brian Armstrong**, **Dr. Willie Capers**, **Dr. Nina Cofer**, **Dr. Sunny Ohia**, **Dr. Yi Qi** and **Dr. John Rudley**. The keynote address was delivered by Honors College Advisory Board member and CEO of C-STEM, **Dr. Reagan Flowers**.
Honors Spring Tribute and Luncheon (contd.)

Honors Faculty member, Dr. Obot Ekwere with Mrs. Clarice Freeman

Honoree Dr. Yi Qi (center) with her twin daughters

Honoree Dr. Nina Cofer with her son Kenneth M. Cofer, III

Freeman Scholar and Mistress of Ceremony, Serena Enemodia with honoree Dr. Sunny Ohia
### Spring 2022 Undergraduate Research and Internships Symposium

Celebrating scholarly research and internship experiences, the symposium serves as a forum for junior level scholars to present their work completed as part of the course augmentation proposals (CAPs). The presentation topics and content are based on the scholars’ chosen fields of study. Participants are given 10-15 minutes to present their research.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Course/Professor</th>
<th>Presentation Topic</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Taylor Adams</td>
<td>San Antonio Police Dept. Internship</td>
<td>“Role of Forensics in Routine Police Investigation”</td>
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<tr>
<td>Farhan Ahmed</td>
<td>AVST 351/ Prof. Booker</td>
<td>“Pilot Preparedness: Unexpected Turn of Events”</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cierra Branch</td>
<td>MGMT 300/ Dr. Wright</td>
<td>“Futuristic Idea in Education”</td>
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<tr>
<td>Samserai Cardenas</td>
<td>EDCI 456/ Dr. Scott</td>
<td>“ESL y Tu: The Importance of Effective ESL Classes in Texas”</td>
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<tr>
<td>Devansh Chadha</td>
<td>FIN 319/ Dr. Iqbal</td>
<td>“Commercial Banking”</td>
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<tr>
<td>Janiya Chapman</td>
<td>AJ 301/ Prof. Whiting</td>
<td>“Examining the Sanctioning Outcomes of Murder Convictions: Disparity Between Minorities and Whites”</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tannard Daresburg, Jr.</td>
<td>PSY 238/ Prof. Venzant</td>
<td>“Behavioral &amp; Psychiatric Disorders Within the Child and Family Spectrum”</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rathea Hersi</td>
<td>PHAR 422/ Dr. Charles</td>
<td>“Pharmacokinetics and the Effects of Escitalopram”</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kester Iwelumor</td>
<td>Internship</td>
<td>“Ethical Issues Surrounding the Probation and Parole System”</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jaina Johnson</td>
<td>AJ 301/ Prof. Whiting</td>
<td>“Ethics in the Criminal Justice System”</td>
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<tr>
<td>A’Nyah Joseph</td>
<td>AJ 412/ Prof. Owdley</td>
<td>“Focus on Cybersecurity: The Ransomware Attack on the Colonial Pipeline”</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alyss Kerl</td>
<td>Internship</td>
<td>“A Day in the Life of a Funeral Director”</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brian Martinez</td>
<td>ACCT 331 / Dr. Alexander</td>
<td>“Pay for Performance: A Source of Loyalty or Displeasure”</td>
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<td>Dexter Maryland</td>
<td>Internship</td>
<td>“Public Service in Harris County”</td>
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<tr>
<td>Blake Melton</td>
<td>Internship</td>
<td>“Anesthesia: Anesthesiology, Surgery, Side Effects, Types, Risk”</td>
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<td>Judnie Michel</td>
<td>BIOL 443/ Dr. Jackson</td>
<td>“Sickle Cell Anemia: Hydroxyurea and other Treatment Options”</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nora Rodriguez-Santiago</td>
<td>Internship</td>
<td>“Pressure-generating Capacity of the Diaphragm in Dogs: Effects of Forceful Efforts at High Lung Volume”</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alexa Romero</td>
<td>AJ 301/Prof. Mason</td>
<td>“The Rule of Law: Examination of the U.S. Justice system”</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cristian Sanchez-Comacho</td>
<td>MGMT 300/Dr. Allagao-Warren</td>
<td>“A Day Without Immigrants: The Importance of Healthy Relationships in the Workplace”</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cameron Steel</td>
<td>RDG 302/Dr. Benford</td>
<td>“African American Fathers: An Essential Component of EC-6 Literary Instruction”</td>
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<tr>
<td>Destiny Smith</td>
<td>BIOL 454/Prof. Patel</td>
<td>“Anxiety and its Effects on Business in Retail Pharmacy”</td>
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<tr>
<td>Melvira Teufack</td>
<td>BIOL 347/Dr. Rosenzweig</td>
<td>“Autism and Vaccines: Correlation or Causation?”</td>
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<tr>
<td>Merci Wilson</td>
<td>SOCW 347/Prof. Cooper</td>
<td>“Teen Suicide Legislation”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aliyah Webb</td>
<td>SOC 359/ Dr. Mosley</td>
<td>“Ethics in the Criminal Justice System”</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Jessica Allagoa  
Degree: B.S. in Biology  
**Thesis Title:**  
*The Environmental Influence on Autism Spectrum Disorder in Sub-Saharan Africa*  
Advisor: Dr. Hector Miranda

Lauren Bailey  
Degree: B.S. in Biology  
**Thesis Title:**  
*Mortuary Science: Green Coffins and Other Non-Traditional Burial Methods that Prioritize our Environment*  
Advisor: Dr. Hector Miranda

Mariah Campbell  
Degree: B.A. in Journalism  
**Thesis Title:**  
*The Beautiful Black Butterfly: Overcoming Rejection, Depression and Low Self-Esteem*  
Advisor: Dr. Christian Ulasi

Serena Enemodia  
Degree: B.S. in Biology  
**Thesis Title:**  
*Personality Traits: A Correlation Examination of Neuroticism and Civic Engagement*  
Advisor: Dr. Hector Miranda

Carolina da Graca  
Degree: B.S. in Maritime Transportation Management and Security  
**Thesis Title:**  
*Analysis of the Environmental and security Risks Related to Crude Oil Transportation*  
Advisor: Dr. Yi Qi

Aubri Ford  
Degree: B.S. in Biology  
**Thesis Title:**  
*Evaluation of Diaphragmatic Movement in the Respiratory System of an Emphysema Patient*  
Advisor: Dr. Ayodotun Sodipe

Jacob Hines  
Degree: B.B.A. in Finance  
**Thesis Title:**  
*The Systemic Lack of Financial Literacy Disproportionately Affecting the Black Community*  
Advisor: Dr. Mayur Desai

Desmonae McCloud  
Degree: B.B.A. in Finance  
**Thesis Title:**  
*The Need to Incorporate Financial Literacy in K-12 Education*  
Advisor: Dr. Monica Rasmus

Janai Minga  
Degree: Pharm.D. in Pharmacy Practice  
**Thesis Title:**  
*Impacts of Empagliflozin on Patients with Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus and at Risk of Adverse Cardiovascular Events*  
Advisor: Dr. Willie Capers

Camryn Roberts  
Degree: B.A. in Music  
**Thesis Title:**  
*Methods within Music*  
Advisor: Dr. Tanya Allen

Lauryn Stovall  
Degree: B.B.A. in Marketing  
**Thesis Title:**  
*COVID-19 and the U.S. Economy*  
Advisor: Dr. Claudius Claiborne

Igor Vouffo  
Degree: B.S. in Chemistry  
**Thesis Title:**  
*The Dynamics of Chemical Reaction Networks*  
Advisor: Dr. Yunjiao Wang

Aasir Mecca (B.J. McCaskill)  
Degree: B.A. in Political Science  
**Thesis Title:**  
*For Posterity’s Sake: Intersectionality of the Systemic and Systematic Oppression of Marginalized Groups and the Climate Crisis*  
Advisor: Dr. David Baker
Spring 2022 Graduation Recognition and Luncheon

On Wednesday, April 27, Freeman Scholars who completed all requirements of the Honors College curriculum, received a certificate of Graduation with Honors Distinction. Graduates also receive the Honors Stole and medallion along with other alumni-themed gifts.

Congratulations to our Spring 2022 graduates!

Top row, left to right: Carolina da Graca (Maritime Transportation) and Aasir Mecca (Political Science)
Second row, left to right: Igor Vouffo (Chemistry), Lauryn Stovall (Marketing) and Jacob Hines (Finance)
Third row, left to right: Desmonae McCloud (Finance), Camryn Roberts (Music), Merritt Johnson (Entertainment & Recording Industry Mgmt.) and Aubri Ford (Biology)

Front row, left to right: Lauren Bailey (Biology), Haleigh Malveaux (Biology), Jessica Allagoa (Biology) and Mariah Campbell (Journalism)
On Friday, April 29, 2022, the Honors College hosted its second annual Academic Signing Day in the lobby of the Library Learning Center. Seven (7) high school scholars committed to the Thomas F. Freeman Honors College for their college education, as their family and friends, along with members of the community and media witnessed the ceremonial signing of academic contracts. All seven are high-achieving scholars who met the Honors criteria including a 3.5 or higher GPA. The new recruits were welcomed by upper-class Freeman Scholars including Mariah Campbell (Journalism, ’22, Miss Junior 2020-21 and Miss TSU 2021-22), Aasir Mecca (Political Science ‘22, Mister Honors College 2018-2019, Mister Junior 2019-20) and Dexter Maryland (Political Science, SGA President 2022-23) who had special messages for the newly admitted scholars as they shared their personal experiences as scholars and campus leaders.

TSU Administration and college/school representatives also welcomed the new scholars and celebrated their high school achievements: Dr. Dakota Doman (Office of the President), Dr. Dwalah Fisher (Provost’s Office), Ms. Melinda Spaulding (University Advancement), Dr. Monica Rasmus (COPHS), Dr. Aladdin Sleem (COSET) and Mr. Eddie Bebley (BJML-SOPA).
Summer of Transformation: Student Internships

ALESSANDRO CAVEDONI-VILLEGAS
Political Science
Immigration Law Intern
Blessinger Legal PLLC, Falls Church, VA

MADISON GRISAFI
Engineering Technology
Production Technology Intern
Marvel Studios (Disney)

EMMANUEL JOSHUA
Computer Science
Software Development Engineer Intern
Amazon

BRIAN MARTINEZ
Accounting
Audit & Assurance Intern
Deloitte

JANAI MINGA
Pharmacy
Pharmacist Intern
Baylor College of Medicine, SMS Program

SHAUN STEVENSON
Biology
Research Technician Intern
Houston Methodist Research Institute

OMOKHUWELE UMORU
Physics and Mathematics
Machine Learning Intern
Logitech

MARK DDAMULIRA
Physics and Mathematics
Engineering Intern
Blue Water Bridge, Michigan
Department Of Transportation

JALEN JACKSON
Biology
HBCU Student Fellow
AfroLatinidades Institute, University of California

CRISTIAN LEONARDO SANCHEZ
Finance
Financial credit analyst Intern
First Bank, Denver Colorado

DEXTER MARYLAND
Political Science
Congressional Intern
U.S. Representative Steve Cohen

DEVIN ROBINSON
Political Science
TechConnect Intern
Houston Councilwoman Karla Cisneros

MELVIRA TEUFACK
Biology
Intern
Baylor College of Medicine
LEADERSHIP SUMMIT: WOODLANDS RESORT & CONFERENCE CENTER

Team Building & Coaching Skills Workshop
Facilitator Brent Scarpo (center) with the Honors College Team
Monday, August 1st and Tuesday, August 2nd

SUNDAY AUGUST 14: CELEBRATING 102nd BIRTHDAY

Dean Jemison Pollard with Dr. Carlotta Freeman (center) and 102nd birthday honoree, Mrs. Clarice Freeman

Dean Jemison Pollard presenting a gift from the Honors College
FREEMAN HONORS

HONORS COLLEGE CORE VALUES
Honesty, Integrity, Community, Creativity and Excellence

The Scholar

Dr. Thomas F. Freeman
1919-2020

Texas Southern University
Thomas F. Freeman Honors College